

The worship and praise of God gives us scale and orientation and direction for the whole of the rest of our lives. Praise and appreciation opens out our words and then our hearts and minds – and especially the praise and worship of God.

### What makes gathering with other Christians important to you?

For Christians, offering praise to God is a daily calling. We are called to worship not only with our lips but in our lives.

That calling is sustained as we say our prayers, and especially the Lord's Prayer. However, our daily worship also needs to be sustained by gathering with God's people in praise and worship on Sundays and on other days of the week.

The Church gathers primarily for worship, to celebrate all that God is and all that God has done, to be drawn into the life of the Trinity: the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We offer God songs and words of praise in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs.

We attend to God's words in Scripture. We gather around the table of the Lord in the Holy Communion. We offer prayers for our own needs and the needs of the world. When we do this we join our prayers – thin and weak as they often are – with the great hymn of praise of the Church in both earth and heaven, in time and in eternity:

***For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.  
Psalm 100.1-3***

*O be joyful in the Lord, all the earth;  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.  
Know that the Lord is God;  
it is he that has made us and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.  
Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and bless his name.*



*Living out our faith*

### OOPS!....

The fact that there is a highway to hell and only a stairway to heaven speaks volumes about anticipated numbers.

Notice outside of a church on a busy main road: Honk if you love Jesus – Text whilst driving if you want to meet Him.

# ◆ Parish News ◆

50p (minimum) For Ashley, Bashley & Milton

March - April 2018

### Dear friends

*"Then Moses turned again to the LORD and said, 'O LORD, why have you mistreated this people? Why did you ever send me?'"*

Exodus 5.22

"Exploitation" seems to be a word which should be consigned to the history books. The idea that individuals or groups of people or even nations should be exploited is abhorrent and undermines everything that we hold dear about freedom, human dignity and self-determination.

Unfortunately, exploitation is a very contemporary word which resonates even in the Twenty-first Century. It crops up frequently in the news with revelations about celebrities exploiting women. We hear it in a similar fashion even in the context of the Houses of Parliament and among the political elite. We have heard it recently used against some of our significant charities who we probably support and are dis-heartened by the way some aid workers have treated those who were supposed to be the recipients of their care.

The idea of ethnic cleansing is also regrettably a part of our vocabulary and it's a horrible and chilling concept.

I remember a friend a long time ago showing me postcards from her brother and his wife in the former Yugoslavia. The pictures of the landscape were delightful but the whole dream came to a sudden end with the onslaught of conflict and bloodshed. In more recent times we have witnessed the wholesale expulsion of Rohingya Muslims from the country formerly known as Burma to Bangladesh.

*"Then Moses turned again to the LORD and said, 'O LORD, why have you mistreated this people? Why did you ever send me?'"*

In the passage from the Book of Exodus, Moses is called to plead with the Pharaoh (or King of Egypt) to "Let my people go". He does this on

several occasions and each time the answer is not only "no" but the penalties imposed on the Israelites become more and more demanding.

In this passage, they were refused the straw they needed to make the bricks which were required to complete the lavish building projects which they had to finish but the same number of bricks were demanded of them.

Moses is at the point of doubting his calling and is fearful of the future but at the beginning of the next chapter, God gives him some timely reassurance:

*"Then the LORD said to Moses, 'Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh: Indeed, by a mighty hand he will let them go; by a mighty hand he will drive them out of his land.'"*



We are not far away from the events of Holy Week, Good Friday and Easter and in some ways, these scriptures point us in that direction.

The Liturgy and Scriptural themes of the coming weeks not only emphasise the physical sufferings of Jesus but highlight his role as our Saviour.

The Psalmist wrote that Israel was rescued from Egypt:

*"By the hands of Moses and Aaron."*

Shortly, Christian people will call to mind that salvation is to be found in Jesus Christ who died and rose again and to him be all the glory.

With my prayers and good wishes

Rector

**PARISH CHURCH WELCOME GROUP**  
**THURSDAY, 29<sup>th</sup> MARCH** - Coffee and Hot  
Cross Morning 10 – 12 noon in the Church Hall

**THURSDAY, 26<sup>th</sup> APRIL** - Pop In Coffee Morn-  
ing 10- 12 noon in the Church Hall  
Handmade cards, marmalade, Jean's bargain  
stall etc. No charge, but a donation is always ap-  
preciated.

### **MUSIC COMING YOUR WAY**

Saturday, March 24th at 7.30 pm.  
Phil Daish-Handy (Cello) & Martin Penrose  
(Piano)  
A Recital with the Tullagh Junior Strings

Tickets £10 on the door or email  
[bmie@outlook.com](mailto:bmie@outlook.com)

or phone 07896198709 for advance  
bookings.

### **Lent Lunches 2018**

Last Thursday, 22nd February, we held the first of  
our series of Lent Lunches on the Theme of The  
Prophets. The Rev'd Andrew Bailey led our wor-  
ship, played the piano for our hymn and gave a  
very good talk on "Who were the Prophets?"

The Lunch was well attended and we give below  
the dates for the next 4 Lunches continuing the  
theme of The Prophets:

1st March, 8th March, 15th March, 22nd March  
beginning promptly each week at 12.15pm and  
finishing at 1.30pm.

The Charities being sponsored this year are the  
Basics Bank, Lymington and The Waterlily Pro-  
ject, supporting and empowering vulnerable wom-  
en in Christchurch and surrounding areas. We  
have a representative attending our 1st March  
lunch, who will give us an insight into the work of  
the Waterlily Project.

We look forward to seeing you at one or more of  
our Lent Lunches.

Lent Lunch Team



### **LYMINGTON CHORAL SOCIETY** **SPRING CONCERT**

7pm, Saturday, 12 May 2018  
St Thomas' Church, Lymington

Mozart Requiem  
Pergolesi Magnificat  
Caldara Stabat Mater  
Michael Goldthorpe, Musical Director  
Timothy Rice, Organist  
The Lymington Classical Play-  
ers; soloists from the London Conserva-  
toires

Tickets available from Maxwell Hamilton,  
Lymington; Milford Community Centre;  
New Forest Stationers, New Milton and  
on the door subject to availability  
Tickets £15 and £12.50 (gallery restrict-  
ed view). Children free when accompa-  
nied by an adult. Admission includes a  
glass of wine/soft drink

[www.lymingtonchoral.org.uk](http://www.lymingtonchoral.org.uk)

### **TUESDAY AFTERNOON LENT GROUPS**

Every Tuesday afternoon through Lent, beginning  
Tues, 20th February, the people who attend the  
prayer group will be studying from a book called  
'Christ in the Wilderness' by Bishop Stephen Cot-  
trell. We will be exploring views of Jesus, and  
prayer, and reflecting on paintings of Christ by the  
twentieth century artist, Stanley Spencer.

We will be meeting at 28, Fernhill Road, from 4 - 5  
pm. You are welcome to join us! For more details,  
contact Annie Abou-Jaoude.(01425 838325.)

### **PROPOSED DAY OUT TO SANDHAM MEMORI- AL CHAPEL, NEAR NEWBURY**

Would other people from the church (and their  
friends) be interested in joining a few of us from  
the prayer group for a day out?

We have been discussing a visit to the amazingly  
beautiful Sandham Memorial Chapel, which is  
covered in murals painted by the renowned Eng-  
lish artist, Stanley Spencer. They relate to the time  
that Spencer served as a hospital orderly in  
World War 1.

It has also been suggested that we lunch at the  
delightful Carpenters Arms, just a few yards  
across from the chapel.

A date has yet to be arranged but it would need  
to be just after Easter; only natural daylight is al-  
lowed in the chapel in order to preserve the paint-  
ings.

If you would like to join us, please contact Annie  
Abou-Jaoude on 01425 838325. Thank you.

### **WORK OF THE SALVATION ARMY**

Every year, The Salvation Army undertakes a re-  
view of its work over the past 12 months, and re-  
ports back to our supporters and donors. It's a  
great way for us to show the impact of your gen-  
erous support.

Over the past 12 months, we've welcomed 3,032  
homeless people into our 82 residential  
Lifeshouses, hosted lunch clubs for 5,690 people  
a week, and provided places at our residential  
summer schools for 800 vulnerable and disad-  
vantaged children.

### **Monday Group**

In January, we were looked after very well when  
24 of us enjoyed our winter lunch at The Plough  
at Tiptoe.

At our 12th February meeting, we had a very  
good talk on the Salvation Army's BH1 Project in  
Boscombe. Ruth Mattingley, who runs the cen-  
tre, came to talk to us and gave us an insight into  
their work with the homeless in Bournemouth.  
The BH1 Project is a converted 3 bedroomed  
house with showers, laundering facilities and  
rooms for counselling available for those who  
need it. We were quite surprised to learn that  
they have about 60 people coming in each day to  
use all the facilities. Our ladies, who are always  
very generous, gave donations of toiletries and  
clean old towels, which were very welcomed by  
Ruth.

Dates for your diary.

12th March - A talk on 'The Finch Family' by  
Rev'd Andrew Bailey 9th April - Flower arrange-  
ments by Sheila Quinney

Monday Group meet on the second Monday of  
the month in the Small Hall to the rear of the Par-  
ish Church Hall at 7.30pm. If you would like fur-  
ther information on Monday Group, please give  
me a call on 01425 610922.

Ann Lewington

### **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is to be  
held on Sunday 22nd April, 2018 at 3pm in the  
Parish Church Hall. Please make a note of the  
date in your diary.

### **Going to church and praying**

The full purpose of our lives is found in praising  
God  
As Christians we believe the full purpose of our  
lives is to praise God. As we do so we begin to  
recognize more and more that everything comes  
from God and to feel even more thankful and full  
of praise.  
Worship helps to recognize who God really is, it  
opens our hearts to what is good. It catches us up  
into the life of heaven. It is something we are  
called to every day of our lives and is fulfilled,  
among other ways, when we say [the Lord's Pray-  
er](#).

*The fundamental business of life is worship. At  
the root of all your being, your intellectual studies,  
the games you play, whatever it is, the impulse to  
do them well is and ought to be understood as  
being an impulse towards God, the source of all  
that is excellent. All life ought to be worship; and  
we know quite well there is no chance it will be  
worship unless we have times when we have  
worship and nothing else.*

*Archbishop William Temple (1881–1944)*

The Christian view of humankind is that human  
beings were created to know God and live in a  
right relationship with God of love and fellowship.  
The true perspective and purpose in our lives is  
found in the praise and appreciation of God and  
in our relationship with God.  
Because of God's grace in Jesus Christ we are  
able to call God 'Father'; we are drawn into a re-  
lationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ.  
We align ourselves with God's will for a better  
world. We begin to see that everything we have  
comes from God. We place ourselves daily within  
his love, care and protection.